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BULLETIN

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Number 11

GARDEN PARTY

The September Garden Party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Reynolds was a tremendous success, with over 200 in attendance and perfect weather. The Audubon Camp Scholarship Fund, for which the affair was given, was augmented greatly. The final profit was \$264.00. Caterers served a delicious ham dinner. Mrs. Reynolds says she was glad to get out of the kitchen this year and greet the guests! The program was delightful. Myra Browne introduced several people who had been to the Audubon Camp on scholarships. Their enthusiasm was heart-warming. Then Dr. Reynolds narrated and Laurel showed the slides of their Caribbean trip. Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Willis, who accompanied them on the trip, were present and helped with the narration. Birding in Jamaica and Venezuela seemed fascinating. (Streamer-tailed hummers!) Later, the audience insisted on seeing Laurel's movies, which were exceptionally fine. (Those flamingoes!)

Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds for a most glamorous and philanthropic evening. Thanks, also, to the hard-working committee under the chairmanship of Louise Muhler: Edna Wininger, reservations; Ethel Richardson, reception; Paul Covel, chairs; Myra Browne, tables; Roberta Long, name tags; Mrs. Glenn Hoover, set-up.

— BONNIE SMITH.

SEPTEMBER TRIP TO ALAMEDA

About 45 members and friends participated in the field trip on Sunday, September 29, to Alameda and Bay Farm Island to observe shorebirds. Low tide at Fort Point, San Francisco, was 2.7 feet at 9:09 A.M., PST; high tide was 5.3 feet at 3:36 P.M., PST. The party met at 9 A.M. at Santa Clara Avenue and Park Street. While waiting for the group to assemble, some very interesting birds were observed in Lincoln Park. The sky was blue, with some thunderheads, but no rain fell and there was no wind.

The following 62 species were observed: Pied-billed Grebe; Brown Pelican; Great Blue Heron; Common Egret; Snowy Egret; Black-crowned Heron; Mallard and Pintail Ducks; Turkey Vulture; Merlin; American Kestrel; Clapper Rail; American Coot; Semipalmated Plover; Killdeer; Black-bellied Plover; Ruddy and Black Turnstones; Long-billed Curlew; Whimbrel; Wandering Tattler; Willet; Greater Yellowlegs; Least Sand-

pipe; Dunlin; Dowitcher; Western Sandpiper; Marbled Godwit; American Avocet; Western, Herring, California and Ring-billed Gulls; Forster's and Caspian Terns; Mourning Dove; Vaux's Swift; Belted Kingfisher; Red-shafted Flicker; Western Flycatcher; Scrub Jay; Plain Titmouse; Mockingbird; Robin; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Loggerhead Shrike; Yellow, Black-throated Gray and Wilson's Warblers; House Sparrow; Western Meadowlark; Redwinged and Brewer's Blackbirds; Western Tanager; House Finch; Lesser Goldfinch; Brown Towhee; Savannah, Vesper, White-crowned, Golden-crowned and Song Sparrows.

—JUNEA W. KELLY, *Leader and Historian*.

SEPTEMBER TRIP TO GRASS VALLEY AND BAY FARM ISLAND

About thirty-five members and guests participated in the field trip on Saturday, September 14th, to Grass Valley Regional Park area, east of Oakland. San Leandro Reservoir, just east of the park, was also covered, but we were a little early for the waterfowl. The highlights of the trip were 6 California Thrashers heard singing in the early part of the day and, as migrants, the presence of Western Tanagers and a single Chipping Sparrow on his way south. After exploring the Grass Valley area, a few of us proceeded to Bay Farm Island to observe some salt water birds during the high tide. The weather was balmy in the morning, but it soon cleared to become one of those clear, perfect days.

The following 60 species were seen or heard in both areas: 1 Pied-billed Grebe, 1 Great Blue Heron, 3 American Egret, 3 Black-cr. Night Heron, 1 Pintail, 15 Turkey Vulture, 5 Red-tailed Hawk, 1 Marsh Hawk, 1 Sparrow Hawk, 25 California Quail, 1 Virginia Rail, 4 Killdeer, 35 Willet, 4 Long-billed Dowitcher, 6 Western Sandpiper, 40 American Avocet, many Western Gull, many California Gull, many Ring-billed Gull, 12 Forster's Tern, 2 Mourning Dove, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 1 Red-shafted Flicker, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 1 Black Phoebe, 4 Say's Phoebe, 2 Western Flycatcher, 28 Steller's Jay, 32 Scrub (Calif.) Jay, 22 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 6 Plain Titmouse, 50-plus Common Bush-Tit, 16 Wren-Tit, 2 Bewick's Wren, 6 California Thrasher, many American Robin, 1 Swainson's (Russet-backed) Thrush, 3 Western Bluebird, 40-plus Cedar Waxwing, 3 Loggerhead (Calif.) Shrike, 6 Hutton's Vireo, 1 Warbling Vireo, 1 Orange-crowned (Lutescent) Warbler, 2 Western Meadowlark, 4 Red-winged Blackbird, many Brewer's Blackbird, 2 Western Tanager, 1 Purple Finch, many House Finch, 25-plus Pine Siskin, 100-minus American Goldfinch, 30-plus Lesser (Green-backed) Goldfinch, 14 Rufous-sided (Spotted) Towhee, many Brown Towhee, 1 Savannah Sparrow, many Oregon Junco, 1 Chipping Sparrow, 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 10 Fox Sparrow, 15 Song Sparrow.

—CHAS. HINES AND RICHARD STALLCUP, *Co-Leaders*.

SOME CONSERVATION POSTSCRIPTS

Audubon members who wrote to our legislators or to State officials in an effort to save the Berkeley Pier for juvenile and family fishing use—and for the bird watchers, too—will be gratified to learn that the California State Wildlife Conservation Board will shortly spend about \$165,000 on rehabilitation of this popular recreation facility.

We were requested on short notice by friends in the Department of Fish and Game

to send a representative to a meeting on future plans for San Leandro Bay held on August 14 in the court house chambers of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. Since members of our Conservation Committee and the President were unavailable, Vice President Harold Peterson generously gave an evening to sit in on this discussion. He reports a conflict of recreational and commercial interests in plans for these waters, long known as a State Game Refuge. The Port of Oakland owns or controls most of the shoreline and plans development for industry and shipping, so we can't be optimistic about the future of birds, fish or pleasure craft. If we can eventually secure adequate control over industrial wastes and avoid pollution of all waters connected with San Leandro Bay we may have to be satisfied!

A new, unforeseen threat to a long-popular birding and hiking area close to home, the Pinnacles National Monument, is contained in the proposal of local business interests that a highway be built across the Monument. Some improvements in facilities are needed at the Pinnacles, but most of us will join the National Park Service, several hiking clubs and other park-minded Californians in opposing such a road that would bisect this beautiful and rugged natural preserve.

—PAUL F. COVEL, *President*.

NOTICE

Contributions to the Sanctuary and Memorial Fund should be sent to Dr. Albert Boles, Treasurer, 854 Longridge Road, Oakland 10, California.

ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 53rd Annual Convention of the National Audubon Society will be held November 9—12 in New York City. President Paul Covell will attend as our delegate.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Golden Gate Audubon Society: from Albany, Miss Marguerite M. Schober; from Berkeley, Mrs. Mary D. Handley, Miss Jessie J. Norton, Mrs. Judith M. Hudson, Miss Bettina J. Byck, Mr. Curtis D. Awbrey, Mr. Edward H. Schafer, Mrs. Katherine Heatlie and Mrs. Jack B. Drori; from Glendale, Mr. Desmond Cummings; from San Francisco, Mr. Hermann Hiedler, Sr., Mr. Edgar N. Stone, Mr. Ervin Kulka and Mrs. Cavendish Moxon; from Walnut Creek, Mr. Victor L. Mann; from Vallejo, Mr. Virgil A. Fields.

—JEAN L. DUNHAM, M.D., *Membership Chairman*.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The 481st regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held Thursday, November 14, at 7:30 P.M. at the Rotary Science Center near the duck-feeding area at Lake Merritt in Oakland. Mr. Allyn Smith of the California Academy of Sciences will show slides and speak on "Re-discovering the Farallons." Mr. Smith spent several weeks on these islands with a scientific expedition. He combines history and wildlife in a most interesting fashion. Guests are welcome.

—BONNIE SMITH, *Program Chairman*.

Note: Come to the no-host dinner at 6 P.M. at Lakeside Inn near the duck-feeding area. Prices are reasonable. For further information call Bonnie Smith at OVERland 1-7635.

FIELD TRIPS FOR NOVEMBER

Saturday and Sunday, November 9th and 10th, WILLOWS AND GRIDLEY REFUGES. In today's complex, high-speed world, the person who is able to seek and find pleasures in the simple beauty which is all around us, but overlooked by so many, is a fortunate person indeed. To one so endowed, what could be more beautiful than a flight of geese against a leaden sky, or ducks by the thousands taking off into a frosty sunrise? Such exciting adventures await those who are planning the trip to the Grey Lodge State Waterfowl Refuge southwest of Gridley on Saturday, November 9th at 10 A.M., and the Sacramento Federal Waterfowl Refuge south of Willows on Sunday morning at 9:30 A.M. Please check the notice in the October *Gull* for information about routes, accommodations and meeting places. Leader, Harry Adamson, ATLantic 3-2164.

Saturday, November 23rd, ORINDA, SAN PABLO AND ST. MARY'S RESERVOIRS. This area is another nearby bird haven with enough variation in habitat to produce 60 or 70 species. Shorebirds, ducks and geese, as well as small wood-species, should all put in an appearance. Meet at 9:00 A.M. in front of the Orinda Theatre near Orinda Crossroads. Leader, A. Laurence Curl, LANDscape 6-7004.

—LEE STALLCUP, *Field Trips Chairman*, LO 9-3185

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Pacific Coast Office of the National Audubon Society at 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, is again open on Saturday. The office is now open from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with regret that we note the death this summer of Mr. Carlos B. Lastretto, one of our charter members. The Golden Gate Audubon Society grew out of Dr. Harold Bryant's nature study class, and Mr. Lastretto was the one, above all others, who kept the organization alive during its formative years. He attended the fortieth anniversary dinner last January and must have been proud of his brain child. Our sincere sympathy to his relatives.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

President.....	Paul F. Covel.....	2860 Delaware Street, Oakland 2, KE 6-4120
Vice President.....	Howard L. Cogswell.....	Box 9486, Mills College, Oakland 13, NE 6-1573
Vice President.....	Harold G. Peterson.....	3548 - 65th Avenue, Oakland 5, LO 8-7534
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Membership Chairman.....	Dr. Jean L. Dunham.....	4607 Harbord Drive, Oakland 18, OL 5-1591
Editor.....	Miss Ruth H. Newborgh.....	1241 Evelyn Avenue, Berkeley 6, LA 5-8610
Sanctuary Fund		
Chairman.....	Frank A. Scott.....	150B La Loma Avenue, Berkeley 8, TH 1-0188

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, \$5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately, \$1.00 per year.

Visit the Pacific Coast Office of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY — 2426 Bancroft Way
Berkeley 4, California — TH 8-4042